Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A message-passing system, comprising:

a. a first client system ~~configured~~ coupled to a semiconductor processor system and programmed to transmit a message packet containing a priority corresponding to a state of the semiconductor processing system;

b. a diagnostics server coupled to the first client system, the diagnostics server programmed to store log data corresponding to the message packet and to map an error code corresponding to the state to a corrective action; and

c. a second client system ~~configured~~ programmed to receive the message packet transmitted from the first client system and process the message packet in an order relative to other message packets based on the priority.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The message-passing system of claim 1, wherein the first client system is ~~configured~~ programmed to transmit the message packet to the second client system according to a transport protocol.

Claim 3 (original): The message-passing system of claim 2, wherein the transport protocol is TCP/IP.

Claim 4 (previously presented): The message-passing system of claim 2, wherein the transport protocol is NetBEUI.

Claim 5 (original): The message-passing system of claim 1, wherein the message packet is formatted according to an SGML standard.

Claim 6 (original): The message-passing system of claim 5, wherein the SGML standard is XML.

Claim 7 (original): The message-passing system of claim 6, wherein the message packet comprises text data.

Claim 8 (original): The message-passing system of claim 6, wherein the message packet comprises a virtual object.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The message-passing system of claim 1, further comprising a first message server coupling the first client system to the second client system, the first message server providing a first communication path between the first client system and the second client system.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The message-passing system of claim 9, further comprising a log server coupled to the first message server, the log server ~~configured~~ programmed to store log data for the message packet.

Claim 11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (previously presented): The message-passing system of claim 9, further comprising:
 a second message server coupled to the first client system and the second client system, the second message server providing a second communication path between the first client system and the second client system; and
 a load balancer coupling the first client system to both the first message server and the second message server, the load balancer further coupling the second client system to both the first message server and the second message server.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The message-passing system of claim 1, ~~further comprising a manufacturing equipment having~~ wherein the semiconductor processing system has an associated parameter, ~~the manufacturing equipment coupled to the first client system, wherein~~ the first client system is ~~configured~~ programmed to monitor the associated parameter, generate the priority based on the parameter, generate the message packet containing the priority, and transmit the message packet to the second client system.

Claim 14 (canceled)

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method of passing a message packet between a first client system and a second client system, the method comprising:

    a.   generating the message packet containing a priority on the first client system, wherein the priority corresponds to a state of a semiconductor processing system;

    b.   transmitting the message packet from the first client system to the second client system and a diagnostics server, wherein the diagnostics server comprises a data store mapping the priority to a corrective action;

    c.   receiving the message packet on the second client system; and

    d.   processing the message packet on the second client system in an order relative to other message packets stored on the second client system based on the priority.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 15, wherein the message packet is transmitted from the first client system to the second client system according to a transport protocol.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 16, wherein the transport protocol is TCP/IP.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The method of claim 16, wherein the transport protocol is NetBEUI.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The method of claim 15, wherein generating the message packet comprises formatting a message according to an SGML standard.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 19, wherein the SGML standard is XML.

Claim 21 (original): The method of claim 20, wherein the message packet comprises text data.

Claim 22 (original): The method of claim 20, wherein the message packet comprises a virtual object.

Claim 23 (original): The method of claim 15, further comprising storing log data for the message packet.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The method of claim 15, wherein transmitting the message packet comprises:

transmitting the message packet to a message server based on a load of the message server; and

transmitting the message packet from the message server to the second client system.

Claim 25 (previously presented): The method of claim 15, wherein generating the message packet comprises encrypting a message to generate an encrypted message and including the encrypted message in the message packet.

Claim 26 (original): The method of claim 25, wherein processing the message packet comprises decrypting the encrypted message in the message packet.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The method of claim 15, further comprising before the step (a):

reading a parameter associated with a manufacturing equipment; and

generating the priority based on the parameter.

Claims 28-35 (canceled)

Claim 36 (currently amended): The message-passing system of claim 1, wherein the second client system comprises a priority queue ~~configured~~ structured for processing the message packet in the order based on the priority.

Claim 37 (new): The message-passing system of claim 1, wherein the first client system is programmed to include a tag within the message packet when the priority is above a threshold, thereby indicating the occurrence of a diagnostics event on the first client system, and the message server is programmed to transmit to the diagnostics server all message packets that include the tag.

Claim 38 (new): The method of claim 15, further comprising taking the corrective action on the first client system, wherein taking the corrective action comprises cooling an area containing the semiconductor processing system.